

145 Longwood Green CT
Aiken, SC 29803-2775
February 28, 2010

Public Service Commission of South Carolina
Attention: Docketing Dept.
P.O. Drawer 11649
Columbia, SC 29211

Reference: Docket No. 2009-489-E

Gentlemen:

The local economy is very depressed and the South Carolina unemployment rate is at or above historical highs. Many senior citizens are truly on a fixed income as there is no COLA increase in Social Security payments this year. Despite the poor economy, SCE&G is requesting a 9.5% rate hike!

This rate hike should be denied because:

- SCE&G was approved for a 2.5 percent rate increase annually for the next decade, following a 4.4 percent rate hike in 2008. This should be more than sufficient.
- The new rate hike would boost residential power bills for the average SCE&G customer by about \$140 a year by July 2011. The average customer is already struggling to pay his monthly bills and cannot afford this increase.
- SCE&G already has higher rates than other investor-owned utilities, as well as publicly owned Santee-Cooper.

The problem is not the current rate structure and the income it produces for SCE&G. It is the lack of internal cost control and efficiency of the SCE&G operations. Therefore SCE&G needs to better control its cost structure prior to requesting further rate increases.

I urge the Commission to deny this request for a rate increase and instruct SCE&G to streamline their operations prior to returning to the Commission for further rate increases. Any rate increases in excess of CPI should be denied.

Approval of this rate increase will only lead to continued inefficiencies at SCG&E and further hardships on their customers.

Best regards,



John Tucker

Public Service Commission of South Carolina
Att: Docketing Dept.
P.O. Drawer 11649
Columbia, SC 29211

February 25, 2010

Re: Docket No. 2009-489-E

I have received notification from SCE&G that they had filed an application with you requesting the authority for a rate hike of 9.52%.

I am writing to encourage you to turn down their request.

Although the notification provided to its customers by SCE&G gave the impression that they need the increase for investments and government required upgrades, information provided by AARP would lead me to question the validity of their request.

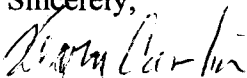
Specifically:

- SCE&G was approved for a 2.5 percent rate increase annually for the next decade, following a 4.4 percent rate hike in 2008.
- New rate hike will boost residential power bills for the average SCE&G customer by about \$140 a year by July 2011.
- For Duke Power customers, the cost of 1,000 kilowatt hours is about \$93, following its recent rate increase. For SCE&G, the same level of power costs \$118. The rate boost, if granted, would put it at \$130.
- SCE&G has higher rates than other investor-owned utilities, as well as publicly owned Santee-Cooper.

This is a time of economic hardship for many of SCE&G's customers. I have recently been laid off from work and am collecting unemployment benefits well below my prior salary. Allowing SCE&G to increase their rates would add to my economic hardships and seemingly reward them for their mismanagement of a public trust. How else can they explain a difference of \$25 per 1000 kilowatt hours between their cost and Duke Power? And now they want to create an even greater difference.

Do not reward them for such behavior. Please hold them accountable to the public that they are suppose to be serving.

Sincerely,



Kevin Carlin
210 Faircrest Way
Columbia, SC 29229

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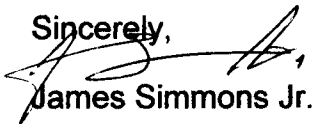
February 26, 2010

Attention: Letter of protest for Docket No. 2009-489-E

I'm a SCE&G customer and can not afford to pay my utility bill now as it stands, please stop the madness with a rate hike at this time, we are in a recession. Da!!!

HELP! HELP! HELP!

Sincerely,



James Simmons Jr.

707 Washington Cir
Aiken SC 29801